

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Brad Wenstrup U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Wenstrup:

This is a letter of support as the Chair of the Clermont County Transportation Improvement District (TID) regarding the application for General FY 2022 Community Project funding for the Eastern Corridor State Route 32 Segment IVa project.

The TID has coordinated with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for many years to continue moving forward on this important capital project. In just the last two years, the TID had managed \$28M of construction on the local roads to make way for the major improvements to State Route 32 Segment IVa from Eastgate to Batavia that ODOT is actively working. This improvement initiative has been possible with the help and support of the Clermont County Commissioners, Miami and Union Townships, the Clermont County Engineer, the Clermont County Community Improvement Corporation, Ohio Department of Transportation, and Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Counsel of Governments (OKI).

State Route 32 represents the primary connective artery that connects Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia's Appalachian population to the Cincinnati metropolitan area. These improvements are critical for job creation and commerce to these underserved populations – many of whom are in low-moderate income areas.

The critical funds needed for this improvement project will significantly improve access and quality of life to the Ohio River valley area, Appalachia, and dozens of counties in multiple states. These improvements are critical infrastructure upgrades that will attract key manufacturing employers and will provide necessary transportation needs for the movement of goods. These improvements will also allow the affected area to better leverage other intermodal forms of transportation as new employers locate along State Route 32.

Thank you for the opportunity to support a worthy project such as this, and thank you for considering this project for this critical funding.

Sincerely,

Jeff Wright Chairman